

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Abrasion – a scraping away of a portion of skin or of a mucous membrane because of injury or by mechanical means.

Acute disease or condition- An illness with rapid onset and full recovery.

Adverse reactions – Unexpected reactions to a drug that are undesirable and potentially harmful.

Aerosol – Medication in a mist form.

Allegations – Accusation; an assertion that must be supported with evidence.

Allergen – A substance that can cause an allergic reaction.

Anaphylactic reaction – A severe, life-threatening response to a substance.

Anesthetics – A type of medication, often used during surgery, to deaden pain or to render the person unable to feel pain.

Antacids – A type of medication that treats upset stomach and indigestion.

Antiallergy – Types of medication taken to counteract or prevent symptoms.

Antiarrhythmic – A type of medication that makes the heart beat more regularly.

Antiasthmatic – A medication used to help people with asthma breathe better.

Antibiotic – A type of medication that kills bacteria, is used to treat infections in the body.

Antibody – A protein substance produced by the body's immune system in response to something foreign. Antibodies help protect against infections.

Anticonvulsant – A medication used to treat or counteract seizures.

Antidepressant – A type of medication that treats depression.

Antidiabetic – A type of medication that is used for people with diabetes to help them control their glucose levels.

Antiepileptic – Same as an anti-convulsant.

Antifungals – A medication that treats athlete's foot, ringworm, and thrush.

Antigen – Any substance that is foreign to the body. An antigen is capable of causing a response from the immune system.

Antihistamine – A type of medication used to treat allergies or allergic reactions.

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Antihypertensive – A type of medication that treats high blood pressure.

Anti-inflammatory – A medication that treats swelling and inflammation.

Antipsychotic – A type of medication that treats severe mental illness; also used to change behavior.

Antiseptic – A substance which reduces the number of bacteria on a surface of the skin.

Asymptomatic – Without symptoms.

Autopsy – Examination of the organs and body tissue of a body to determine cause of death or pathological conditions.

Bacterial Meningitis – A swelling or inflammation of the tissue covering the spinal cord and brain caused by bacteria.

BID – To be given two times a day, or every 12 hours.

Bleach solution – For disinfecting environmental surfaces. One-quarter (1/4) cup of household liquid chlorine bleach (sodium hypochloride) in one gallon of water; prepared fresh daily. Mix 1 tablespoon bleach with one gallon of water for a sanitizing solution.

Body fluids – Urine, feces, saliva, blood, nasal discharge, eye discharge, and injury or tissue discharge.

Bronchitis – Most often a bacterial or viral infection that causes swelling of the tubes (bronchioles) leading to the lungs.

Bronchodilator – A type of medication that widens the breathing passages of people with asthma.

Campylobacter – The name of a bacterium that causes diarrhea.

Capsules – Medication, usually in powder form inside of a dissolvable gel container that is swallowed.

Carbohydrates – A group of chemical substances including sugars, glycogen, starches, dextrins, and celluloses that contain only carbon, oxygen and hydrogen.

Caregiver – Used here to indicate the primary staff who works directly with children.

Caries – Tooth decay.

cc – A liquid measurement of volume, cubic centimeter.

CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which is responsible for monitoring

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communicable diseases, immunization status, injuries, and congenital malformations, and for performing other disease and injury surveillance activities in the United States.

Children With Special Health Care Needs – Children with developmental disabilities, mental retardation, emotional disturbance, sensory or motor impairment, or significant chronic illness who require special health surveillance or specialized programs, interventions, technologies, or facilities.

Colic – Spasm in any hollow or tubular soft organ accompanied by pain.

Compliance – The act of carrying out a recommendation, policy, or procedure.

Confidential – Entrusted with the confidence of another; secrecy.

Congenital – Existing at the time of birth.

Contact dermatitis – A skin inflammation that results when the skin comes in direct contact with substances that can cause an allergic or inflammatory reaction.

Controlled substance – Medications that must be locked up. This includes medication like narcotics and drugs used in the treatment of Attention Deficit Disorder.

Croup – Spasms of the airway that cause difficult breathing and cough.

Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) – The Division of Child and Family Services function is designed to protect children at risk of abuse, neglect, or dependency, by working with families.

Dermatitis – An inflammation of the skin.

Diuretics – A type of medication that a person to get rid of excess fluid in their body.

Dose – the prescribed amount of the medicine the child is supposed to take.

DPT – Abbreviation for the immunization against diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis.

Ectoparasite – An organism that lives on the outer surface of the body.

Emetic – An agent that induces vomiting (such as Syrup of Ipecac).

Epiglottitis – Tissue lid of the voice box. When this becomes swollen and inflamed (a condition called epiglottitis), it can block the breathing passages. *Haemophilus influenzae* commonly causes epiglottitis. This condition has been greatly reduced in areas where standard infant immunizations and boosters are performed.

Expectorant – A medication that will cause a person with a cough to cough up mucus.

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Gastrostomy tube feeding - The administration of nourishment using a plastic tube that has been surgically inserted into the stomach of infants or children who are unable to take adequate nutrition orally.

gtts. – This abbreviation stands for “drops”. *Give two gtts. in each eye, Q day would mean to give two drops of medication in each eye once a day.*

HbCV –Haemophilus b Conjugate Vaccine, one of the vaccines available against Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib).

HBV – Hepatitis B virus.

Health Care provider – A health care professional provides healthcare by an established licensing body with or without supervision. The most common types of health care providers include physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and nurses.

Child Care Health Consultant – A physician, certified pediatric or family nurse practitioner, or registered nurse that has pediatric or child care experience and is knowledgeable in child care, licensing, and community resources. The health consultant provides guidance and assistance to child care staff on health aspects of the facility.

Health Plan – A written document that describes emergency health and safety procedures, general health policies and procedures, and policies covering the management of mild illness, injury prevention, and occupational health and safety.

Homeopathic medicine – A type of alternative, or complementary medicine.

Inhaler – A delivery device for medicine to go into the lungs.

IPV - Inactivated Polio Virus vaccine as in the inactivated (Salk-type) polio virus vaccine. The immunization is given by way of a subcutaneous injection.

Isolation – The physical separation of an ill person from other persons in order to prevent or lessen contact between other persons and the ill person’s body fluids.

IU – International Units, a measurement often used for vitamins.

Jaundice – Yellowish discoloration of the whites of the eyes, skin, and mucous membranes caused by deposition of bile salts in these tissues. It occurs as a symptom of various diseases, such as hepatitis, that affect the processing of bile.

Laxatives – A group of medications commonly taken for constipation.

Lethargy – Unusual sleepiness or lack of energy.

Liable – Legally obligated.

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Listeriosis – A term applied to the diseases caused by Listeria bacterium. Listeria can cause meningitis, blood infections, heart problems, and abscesses, and can cause a pregnant woman to miscarry. These diseases are usually acquired by eating or drinking unpasteurized milk or milk products.

Maltreatment – To treat roughly or cruelly.

Mandated – Require; An authoritative instruction command

Mantoux intradermal skin test – The Mantoux intradermal skin test involves the intradermal injection of a standardized amount of tuberculin antigen. The reaction to the antigen on the skin can be measured and the result used to assess the likelihood of infection with tuberculosis.

MDI – Metered-dose inhaler. This method of administering inhaled medication is used most often by children and adults who have asthma.

Measles (red measles, rubeola, hard measles, 8 to 10-day measles) – A serious viral illness characterized by a red rash, high fever, light-sensitive eyes, cough, and cold symptoms. This infection has been almost entirely eliminated in areas where standard infant immunizations and boosters are performed.

Meningitis – Inflammation and infection of the tissue covering the brain and spinal cord. When this tissue becomes infected and inflamed, the disease is called meningitis.

Metabolism – The process by which an organism ingests, digests, transports, utilizes, and excretes food substances.

ml – A measurement that is one millionth of a liter, also a cubic centimeter.(cc)

MMR –Vaccine for measles, mumps, and rubella.

Molars – A grinding or back tooth, one of three on each side of the jaws. The first permanent molar erupts at the 6th year; the second one about the 12th year.

Multiple gestation – Twins, triplets etc.

Mumps – A viral infection with symptoms of fever, headache, and swelling and tenderness of the salivary glands, causing the cheeks to swell. This infection has been almost entirely eliminated in areas where standard infant immunizations and boosters are performed.

N.G., O.G., or G.T., – To be given through a Nasogastric, Orogastric, or Gastrostomy tube. Special instructions, precautions and training must be completed before attempting to give a child medications through feeding tubes of any kind.

Narcotics – Controlled drugs that are given to relieve pain, and are very addictive.

Nasal decongestant – A type of medication that will treat a stuffy nose.

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Nasogastric feeding – The administration of nourishment using a plastic tube that is inserted through the nose into the stomach of infants or children who are unable to take adequate nutrition orally.

Nebulizer – An apparatus for producing a fine spray or mist by rapidly passing air through a liquid or by vibrating a liquid at a high frequency so the particles produced are extremely small. This is a route of giving medications that can be inhaled into the lungs, usually for those with asthma.

Nonpurulent conjunctivitis – “Pink eye” that is usually accompanied by a clear, watery eye discharge, without fever, eye pain, or redness of the eyelid. This type of conjunctivitis usually can be managed without excluding a child from a facility, as in the case of children with mild infection of the respiratory tract.

NPO – Nothing by mouth

Nutrition – the science of foods, the nutrients they contain, their action, interaction and balance in relation to health and disease and the process of metabolism.

O.D. – The right eye.

O.S. – The left eye.

O.U. – Both eyes.

Objective – Perceptible to other persons, said of symptoms. Opposite of subjective.

Ocular – Pertaining to the eye.

Ointment – A form of medicine that is applied externally to the skin, the eyes or other mucous membranes.

Opiate – A pain relieving medication, which is always a controlled substance.

Ophthalmic – Pertaining to the eye.

Oral hygiene –

Orally – To be given by mouth.

Organisms – Living things. Often used as a general term for germs (such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, or parasites) that can cause disease.

Orogastric feeding – The administration of nourishment using a plastic tube that is inserted through the mouth into the stomach of infants or children who are unable to take adequate nutrition orally.

OSHA – Abbreviation for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor, which regulates health and safety in the workplace.

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OTC – Over the counter medications.

Otic – Pertaining to the ear.

Otitis media – Inflammation or infection of the middle ear. Ear infections are commonly caused by *Streptococcus pneumoniae* or *Haemophilus influenzae*.

Ototoxic – A medication that can damage a child's hearing.

P.O. – To be given by mouth.

P.R. – Per rectum.

Parasite – An organism that lives on or in another living organism (such as ticks, lice, mites).

Patch – A method of administering medication that is absorbed slowly through the skin.

Pediculicide – A medication that kills lice.

Per Os – Into the eye.

Permanent teeth – Teeth that come in when the baby teeth are lost.

Perpetrator – One who is guilty of committing a crime.

Personal Protective Equipment – Includes a plastic apron, gloves, goggles and face and splash protection. Personal Protective Equipment should be worn whenever there is a risk of exposure to body fluids.

Plaque – A gummy mass of microorganisms which grows on the crowns of teeth, then spreads along the roots. It usually is too small to be seen and is both colorless and transparent. Dental plaques are the forerunners of dental caries and periodontal disease, which may be prevented by proper daily self-care of the teeth.

Pneumonia – An acute or chronic disease marked by inflammation of the lungs and caused by viruses, bacteria, or other microorganisms and sometimes by physical and chemical irritants.

Polio – A disease caused by the polio virus with signs that may include paralysis and meningitis, but often with only minor flu-like symptoms. This infection has been almost entirely eliminated in areas where standard infant immunizations and boosters are performed.

PPD – Abbreviation for purified protein derivative, a substance used in intradermal tests for tuberculosis. See also Mantoux skin test.

Prescription – the written authorization from a physician or other health care professional with prescriptive authority specifying the medication, route, amount, and times medication should be given to a specific child.

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Primary (baby) teeth – A child’s first set of teeth.

PRN – As needed.

Prone - Lying horizontal with face downward.

Purulent – Containing pus, a thick white or yellow fluid.

Purulent conjunctivitis – “Pink eye” with white or yellow eye discharge, often with matted eyelids after sleep, and including eye pain or redness of the eyelids or skin surrounding the eye. This type of conjunctivitis is more often caused by a bacterial infection, which may require antibiotic treatment. Children with purulent conjunctivitis, therefore, should be excluded until the child’s health care provider has examined the child and cleared him or her for readmission to the facility.

Q – Every. (See example below).

QD – Every day.

QID – Four times a day, or every 6 hours.

Rectally – Given by inserting into the rectum. Special instructions, precautions and training should be completed before attempting to give a child medications rectally.

Respiratory syncytial virus – (RSV) A virus that causes colds, bronchitis, and pneumonia.

Reye Syndrome – A syndrome seen in children under 18 years of age after a acute viral infection. Has been associated with use of aspirin in children.

Rheumatic fever – A severe infectious disease often occurring after a strep infection. Rheumatic fever is characterized by fever and painful inflammation of the joints and may result in permanent damage to the valves of the heart.

Rhinovirus – A virus that causes the common cold.

Risk factors – Factors in the environment, or chemical, psychological, physiological, genetic elements which are thought to pre-dispose an individual to the development of a disease or condition.

Rotavirus – A viral infection that causes diarrhea and vomiting, especially in infants and children.

Route – the way in which a child is supposed to take a medication, e.g., by mouth, into the ear, or into the eye.

Sepsis – An infection that involves the presence of pathogenic organisms or their toxins in the blood or body tissues.

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Side effects – Usually natural, predictable actions of a drug that occur at the same time as the desired effect.

State Medical Examiner – Physicians in the community who perform external examinations of individuals who have died due to unusual circumstances.

Status epilepticus – A prolonged seizure or a series of seizures that continue uncontrolled for 20 minutes or more.

Sub-lingual – Under the tongue.

Sulfa-drugs – A term most commonly referring to a certain class of antimicrobial medications containing sulfa.

Suspension – A liquid form of medication, in which tiny particles of the medication are contained in a liquid, and are not dissolved. This form of liquid medication always requires shaking before use.

Syrup – A liquid form of medicine that is thick, and usually contains a sweetener

Syrup of ipecac – A type of medicine that induces vomiting in a person who has swallowed a toxic or poisonous substance.

Tablespoon – A household unit of measurement equivalent to 15 cc.

Tablets – A form of medication in which a powder is compressed into a round, flattened shape.

Teaspoon – A household unit of measurement in exact measurement, 5 cc.

TID – Three times a day, or every 8 hours.

Tincture – A liquid form of medication in which the medicine is dissolved in an alcohol base.

Topically – To be applied to the skin.

Toxoplasmosis – A parasitic disease usually causing no symptoms. Toxoplasmosis can infect and damage an unborn child while producing mild or no symptoms in the mother.

Transmission - The passing of an infectious organism or germ from person to person

Under-immunized – When a person has not received the recommended number or types of vaccines for his/her age according to the current national and local immunization schedules.

WIC – Abbreviation for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children, which provides food supplements and nutritional education to pregnant and breastfeeding women, infants, and young children who are considered to be at nutritional risk due to their level of income and evidence of inadequate diet.